

212/340

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 4, line 18 as follows:

A The boot liner is composed of several layers of cloth, foam rubber, latex, and gel which vary in dimension and composition in different parts of the boot. Referring to the front of the boot, the toe box 14 is formed with four layers of cloth and foam, including an outer cover 20, an outer foam layer 21, an inner foam layer 22, and a lining 23. The outer cover 20 is a heavy cloth, such as mesh or fleece, but could also be cordura, plastic, synthetic leather, or action nubuck. The outer cover 20 may include several additional layers to create an outwardly attractive appearance. Preferably, when made in combination with all the specified elements of the boot liner, the foam layers 21 and 22 comprises polyethylene, but may also comprise ethyl vinyl acetate (EVA), latex, or polyurethane foam.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 5, line 1 as follows:

A 2 A gel pad 25 is disposed between the two foam layers of the toe box, secured by an adhesive. The gel pad 25 forms an arcuate path from the region forward of the vamp 12, forwardly over the top of the toe box 14, across the width of the toe box 14, and to the bottom of the toe box at the sole 10. The gel pad 25 extends around the tip of the toe box 14 laterally such that the entire front end of the toe box is protected by the gel pad 25. The gel pad 25 is tapered at the edges and is thickest in the center, where the front of the toes would impact when the foot suddenly shifts forward in the boot. The gel pad 25 comprises styrene and 1,3-butadiene (styrene butadiene rubber, also referred to as SBR) or similar resilient soft rubber or elastomeric compound. The gel pad has an overall durometer value of less than 0 (Shore A).

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 6, line 16 as follows: